(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the said oil refinery to present such leakages of gas; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) On 19.8.2002, an incident of slippage of unconverted gas from the stack of the Sulphur Recovery Unit due to insufficient air supply occurred at the Mathura refinery. Immediate corrective action was taken and normal operation restored within a short time.

(c) and (d) The Mathura refinery is equipped with gas detectors installed at strategic locations. Interlocks and trips have also been provided to take care of the safety of personnel and the plant.

LPG connections in Chhattisgarh

†2069. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of LPG connections in Chhattisgarh;

(b) what is the district-wise number of these connections;

(c) the number of bottling plants to refill the same and what is the capacity of these plants; and

(d) the details of action taken to provide proper facility of refilling in Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) As on 1.10.2002, the total number of customers for domestic LPG registered with Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were 6.11 lakhs in the State of Chhattisgarh.

(c) At present, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) is having 1 LPG bottling plant of 44 Thousand Metric Tonne per annum (TMTPA) capacity at Raipur in the State of Chhattisgarh.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has planned for setting up of a 44 TMTPA capacity LPG bottling plant near Raipur in Chhattisgarh, which is carried over from Ninth Plan.

International Energy Forum

2070. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eighth International Energy Forum was held at Osaka in Japan in September, 2002;

(b) if so, the number of countries which participated; and

(c) what decisions were taken at the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The conference was attended by the Oil and Gas Minister of 65 countries and sector related 11 international associations including Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and International Energy Agency (IEA).

(c) The general consenus at the conference was that stable oil prices at sustainable levels are in the interest of both the oil producing and cunsuming countries. The oil exporting countries, both OPEC and non-OPEC, assured the conference that the oil producers will utilize their extra production capacity to ensure that there is no shortfall in terms of physical supply of oil in situations of disruptions.

Cancellation of allotment of petrol pumps/gas agencies

2071. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN(DURRU): Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of allotment of petrol pumps, kerosene and LP Gas dealerships in different States and Union Territories, made during 2000 onwards, cancelled under Prime Minister's order;

(b) the cases in which infrastructure was to be provided by the PSUs concerned and the investment actually made by them so far indicating the stage of development in each case; and